

REMARKS

The rejections of Claims 16, 17, 24, 25, 30 and 31 as being unpatentable over Togai et al in view of Morimoto, of Claims 18, 26 and 32 as being unpatentable over Togai et al in view of Morimoto and Mimura et al, and of Claims 21, 29 and 35 as being unpatentable over Togai et al in view of Morimoto and Nakagawa et al, each under 35 USC §103(a), are traversed. Reconsideration of each of these rejections is respectfully requested.

None of the cited references teach or suggest the claimed concept disclosed at page 15, lines 7-20 and shown in Fig. 4, namely controlling the target value when the running mode from the second to the first running modes. That is, the prior art does not suggest instantaneously changing a target value such as the driving shaft torque or engine torque from the second running mode to the first running mode.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #056203.44307C3).

Respectfully submitted,

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